

## EJ IWG – EMI April 17, 2017 Meeting Notes

### Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

#### Agenda Topics:

- 2017 EMI Student and sponsor follow-up conference call - listening session and feedback.
- 2017 EMI students and Dr. Padgett are encouraged to share their experiences and provide feedback to help the EMI Team enhance future workshops and opportunities.

#### Participants:

Marsha Minter	(EPA)
Joanna Mounce Stancil	(USDA/FS)
Joey Baietti	(HUD)
Iqra Nasir	(EPA)
Kassandra Rice	(Humboldt)
Rebeka Isaac	(Un. of Texas at El Paso)
Latia Jackson	(Virginia State Un.)

#### Key Discussions and Outcomes:

- The main purpose of this conference call was to hear from the 2017 EMI students – to learn from their experiences, concerns and gain their recommendations to enhance future EMI opportunities.
- Joanna shared that EMI team is currently developing a list of guiding questions to send to the EMI students. The goal would be to capture the student experience in their words and use their experiences and input to enhance the 2018 EMI Workshop and to write a blog and article.
  - Joanna shared she would need the guiding questions ready to send to students by the end of April.
    - Kassandra Rice said she has mid-term exams in mid-May. She would need 10-15 days to return her response.
    - Rebecca Isaac also has finals in Mid-May.
- Kassandra shared that this was her first time traveling by herself and for the most part it was a good experience. She enjoyed the trip although it was long with three flights. However, while in New Orleans she was harassed by a man in her hotel. She reported to the hotel and the authorities.
  - We discussed making sure the students have each other's contact information and that they also link up with their EMI federal representative at the event and perhaps have hotel rooms near each other and stay in a group while at the event.

Note: Students did have each other's cell and Alyssa's phone numbers while in New Orleans.

- Kassandra felt the HBCU was well organized and she enjoyed meeting new students. Dillard was a different environment from Humboldt – leading to a cultural awareness experience.
- The HBCU panel was near the end of the day so they did not have a large audience – she had 15-20 minutes to present and felt it was well received.
- She felt the EMI email correspondence was easy to follow – was pleased with the overall EMI experience. She really enjoyed the tour of New Orleans.
- She shared that she has grown from interactions with people of color and in “learning from hearing others greater thinking.”
- Recommendation: provide more clarification. As an undergrad she didn't understand what “abstract” meant - she sought her professor's insight and his review of her abstract.
  - Lesson learned: don't assume that all students have the same level of understanding or experience – provide more clarification.
  - Support: likes the idea of students staying in contact with each other.
    - Likes the idea of a cadre of EMI student ambassadors to mentor future EMI students and to advise us on the Call for Abstracts etc. She suggested they could review the Call for Abstracts and review abstracts from future students and advise them throughout the workshop process.
    - Strongly suggests we go back to HBCU in 2018.
- Rebeka Isaac: She shared that she had a great time – no complaints. Overwhelming good memories.
  - The NEJC opened her eyes that people do care about the environment. Makes her glad - in her town the environment is not a top priority.
  - She did admit that she found the Call for Student EJ Abstract intimidating. Was not sure what abstract meant – but her professor helped.
  - Recommendation: If you want minority candidates to apply we might need to make the Call for Abstracts more culturally sensitive.
  - She was comfortable with the workshop format. Felt she was presenting to a room of peers.
  - Supports: student mentoring and other projects.
    - She will work with Carol Ramos-Cerena on a student Face Book page – we would need to decide if it would be an open or a closed group.
    - Marsha said she would check with EPA Coordinator on the feasibility of such a page.
  - Said overall the workshop format was okay.
  - Attending the NEJC gave her hope – that there are people working to avoid the “end of the world.”
- Marsha discussed the upcoming Access & Awareness Webinar which would include one EMI student, and a youth from the National Environmental Justice Council Youth Advisory Group.

- Joey is the POC and he said the webinar might happen in May or June. He is exploring if the webinar will reside on EPA page or another IWG agency site. He will let us know the specifics.

Next Steps:

- Joanna will send out the guiding questions to the EMI team for one more review. Needs back by Monday, April 24.
- Joanna will send guiding questions to students – give 10-15 days to respond.
- Marsha will check with the EPA Coordinator on how to proceed with a Face Book page.
- Rebeka will work with Carol on a student Face Book page.
- Joey will let us know about the Access and Awareness Webinar.
- EMI team will need to choose student to do webinar.

Next Meeting:

- Monday, May 22, 2017 at 1 PM